



ALKASS®
INTERNATIONAL CUP

DAY 10 | Thursday, January 29, 2026

ALKASS 17
URDAY CHAMPION



BARCELONA
CAPTURE TOURNAMENT TITLE
IN STUNNING FIVE-GOAL WIN

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RECAP

DAY 9 : 27.01.2026

Classification Decided: Kashiwa and Rangers Claim Top Spots

Day 9 of the Al Kass International Cup delivered two competitive classification matches as teams fought to finish their campaigns on a positive note.

In Match 1, Kashiwa Reysol overcame Étoile Sportive to secure fifth place, while Étoile Sportive finished sixth, closing out their tournament with a strong performance against determined opposition.

Match 2 saw Rangers FC defeat PVF Academy in the seventh-place playoff, with both sides pushing hard to end the competition on a high. Rangers claimed seventh place, while PVF Academy ended the tournament in eighth.

With those positions settled, attention now shifts to the final day of the tournament, where Aspire Academy and Mohammed VI Academy will contest third place, while Paris Saint-Germain and FC Barcelona prepare for a blockbuster final to decide the champions and runners-up of this year's edition.



11th Edition 2026
DAY 10 : 29.01.2026

ALKASS®
INTERNATIONAL CUP



MATCH 1

3RD
PLACE



1 | 1
(5-4)



4TH
PLACE

GAME REPORT

Aspire Academy faced Mohammed VI in a decisive third-place playoff at the AlKass International Cup. Mohammed VI took the lead in the 39th minute when Aymane Ait Hammou delivered a precise cross that was headed home by Nadir Bakkali. Despite brief appeals for a possible offside, the goal stood, giving Mohammed VI a 1-0 advantage. Aspire Academy pushed forward with determination and were rewarded in the closing stages, as Adham Adnan Adnan scored a late equalizer in the 81st minute,

forcing the match into a penalty shootout. The shootout proved dramatic. Aspire converted their first two penalties before missing the third and fourth attempts, while Mohammed VI missed their first two but scored their third and fourth. With the scores level at 3-3, a second round of penalties followed. Both teams scored again to make it 4-4, before Mohammed VI converted the decisive kick to win 5-4 on penalties, securing third place in the 11th edition of this tournament.



"majority of our team is below 15 years of age, which shows their determination and mindset."

KHALID SEKKAT
MOHAMMED VI, Head Coach

"We did our best to achieve the most in this tournament."

ALVARO PEREZ
ASPIRE ACADEMY, Head Coach



MAN OF THE MATCH YOUNES FELLOULA







P R E S S C O N F E R E N C E

ASPIRE ACADEMY VS MOHAMMED VI

Both coaches reflected on a demanding and emotional encounter, highlighting development, character, and experience gained from this tournament. Mohammed VI coach Khalid Sekkat praised his players' ambition and mentality, describing them as talented, strong, and deserving of the victory after their hard work. He expressed pride in participating in the AlKass International Cup, noting that despite losing the opening match, the team showed strong growth throughout the competition. Sekkat emphasized that his squad is extremely young, with all players under 15 years old, many still in early physical development, yet capable of competing, winning, and scoring. He described the tournament as a valuable experience and said it was a pleasure to return for his second AlKass International Tournament appearance. On the other side, Aspire Academy head coach Álvaro Pérez described the match as the toughest of the tournament, citing intense pressure from Mohammed VI and physical exhaustion after consecutive games. While disappointed to finish fourth, he expressed great pride in his team's effort and performance. Pérez acknowledged missed opportunities and difficulties in the penalty shootout, congratulated Mohammed VI on securing third place, and wished his young players continued success in their development.



MATCH 2

1ST
PLACE



5 | 2



2ND
PLACE

GAME REPORT

FCB claimed their first-ever Alkass International Cup title in emphatic fashion, overcoming PSG with a dominant second-half display. The victory was historic, as Barcelona had previously reached finals but never managed to lift the trophy, while PSG missed the chance to secure a record fourth title. The match began at a blistering pace. Artem Rybak opened the scoring for FCB in the 9th minute with a solo effort, but PSG responded quickly through Maoula Niakate just two minutes later. PSG then took the lead in the 38th minute when Abde-Chahid El Mezouari converted

from Nathan Mboumba's assist, sending them into halftime 2-1 ahead despite FCB's superior shot count. The second half, however, belonged entirely to Barcelona. Ruslan Mba Hernando equalized in the 41st minute, before Hugo Graces Lagunas struck in the 52nd to turn the game around. Rybak added his second in the 60th minute, and PSG's hopes collapsed when Mathieu Petit-Dol scored an own goal in the 77th. FCB's relentless attack overwhelmed PSG, finishing with 20 shots to just 5. Artem Rybak, with two goals and an assist, was named Man of the Match, sealing Barcelona's long-awaited triumph.



"We are proud to achieve this historic title, as it reflects our effort and true Barcelona spirit."

DAVID SANCHEZ DOMENE
FC BARCELONA, Head Coach

"We are seeking to gain the trophy, but this is Football and it is always full of Surprises"

Coach Vincent Ehouman
PSG, Head Coach



MAN OF THE MATCH
ARTEM RYBAK





P R E S S C O N F E R E N C E

PSG VS PVF FC BARCELONA

The two coaches offered contrasting reflections yet agreed the final provided valuable lessons for their squads. FC Barcelona head coach David Sánchez Domene expressed delight at securing a historic first title in the Alkass International Cup. He praised his players for reacting strongly after a difficult first half, noting their ability to correct mistakes and impose attacking quality proved decisive. Sánchez emphasized that the triumph was the result of collective effort and resilience, underlining that from the opening match the ambition was clear, to win the trophy. He highlighted the importance of mentality and preparation, stressing that the victory reflected Barcelona's tradition and rewarded the squad's commitment throughout the tournament. Paris Saint-Germain coach Vincent Ehouman reflected on the disappointment of missing out on a record fourth crown, explaining that while PSG controlled the first half, individual errors and fatigue shifted momentum decisively in Barcelona's favor. He acknowledged the heavy defeat but stressed that the competition offered valuable lessons, pointing to the need to learn from mistakes and manage the physical demands of such a schedule. Ehouman reiterated that despite the setback, the experience gained will strengthen his squad for future editions.



Exclusive Interview

ALI FOUAD | Member of the Evaluation Committee

What are the main criteria you use to select the Best Player and Best Goalkeeper of the tournament?

The evaluation criteria differ between outfield players and goalkeepers. For players, I look at several key factors such as ball recovery, passing accuracy, key passes, shots on target, goals scored, and overall finishing. Penalty goals and winning penalties for the team are also considered. Each action earns points, but there are also deductions, for example, red and yellow cards negatively affect a player's score. For goalkeepers, the focus is on handling, shot-stopping, one-on-one situations, distribution, penalty saves, and overall decision-making. Above all, the most important factor for both players and goalkeepers is their impact on the match result. Influence on the game is essential.

How difficult is it to evaluate young players coming from different teams and footballing schools?

The evaluation principles remain the same at all age levels. What truly makes the difference is the individual quality of each player, their abilities, football intelligence, and understanding of the game. While teams may come from different footballing schools, it is the player's personal performance and decision-making that stand out most.



What impressed you most about the level of talent in this edition of the tournament?

Overall, the level ranged from average to very good. There were several teams that stood out, showing strong technical abilities and high-quality individual skills. The tournament clearly featured promising talent capable of competing at a high level.

Which players or teams stood out to you as having a bright future?

Barcelona had several players who stood out technically and tactically on an individual level, although long-term success depends on consistency and continuity. Aspire Academy also impressed with players who showed strong potential and balanced abilities. Paris Saint-Germain stood out for their physical strength and athletic profiles, which gave them a clear advantage in many matches.



GROUP STAGE

GROUP A		GROUP B	
	ASPIRE ACADEMY		FC BARCELONA
	MOHAMMED VI FA		PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN
	RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB		KASHIWA REYSOL
	ÉTOILE SPORTIVE DU SAHEL		PVF ACADEMY

DATE	NO.	TEAMS	KICK-OFF	
Monday 19. Jan	1	Aspire Academy 	1 vs 0  Mohammed VI	15:30
	2	Rangers FC 	0 vs 0  Étoile Sportive	17:50
Tuesday 20. Jan	3	FC Barcelona 	3 vs 3  PSG	15:30
	4	Kashiwa Reysol 	2 vs 1  PVF Academy	17:50
Wednesday 21. Jan	5	Aspire Academy 	2 vs 1  Rangers FC	15:30
	6	Mohammed VI 	0 vs 0  Étoile Sportive	17:50
Thursday 22. Jan	7	FC Barcelona 	5 vs 1  Kashiwa Reysol	15:30
	8	PSG 	1 vs 1  PVF Academy	17:50
Friday 23. Jan	9	Aspire Academy 	4 vs 2  Étoile Sportive	15:30
	10	Mohammed VI 	2 vs 0  Rangers FC	17:50
Saturday 24. Jan	11	FC Barcelona 	3 vs 1  PVF Academy	15:30
	12	PSG 	3 vs 1  Kashiwa Reysol	17:50

POSITION PLAYOFF (8-5 Pos.)

Sunday 25. Jan	13	Étoile Sportive 	1 vs 0  PVF Academy	15:30
	14	Rangers FC 	0 vs 2  Kashiwa Reysol	18:00

SEMI-FINAL

Monday 26. Jan	15	Aspire Academy 	2 (4-5) 2  PSG	15:30
	16	FC Barcelona 	3 vs 1  Mohammed VI	18:00

POSITION 8-7 & 6-5

Tuesday 27. Jan	17	Étoile Sportive 	1 vs 4  Kashiwa Reysol	15:30
	18	PVF Academy 	0 vs 4  Rangers FC	18:00

POSITION 4 & 3

Thursday 29. Jan	19	Aspire Academy 	1 (4-5) 1  Mohammed VI	14:15
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FINAL

Thursday 29. Jan	20	PSG 	2 vs 5  FC Barcelona	16:35
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All matches will be played at Aspire - Pitch 7

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A SPECTACULAR END TO THE TOURNAMENT

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